

The Life of a Preschool Teacher

What is the job of a preschool teacher, sit back and think for a minute are we babysitters? There are several reasons why I became a teacher I will focus only on three. My dream as a child was to be a teacher. Another reason is that eventually my plan was to build my own family and have kids of my own. Third reason is that I enjoy making a difference in children's lives and wonder why is it so hard to grant us with the pay that we well deserve

My dream as a child was to be a teacher. Before I even entered preschool I would line up my bears and dolls and pretend read to them as well as write on a chalkboard as if I was teaching them. After so many years of it all only being a dream all the hard work and dedication paid off and in June 2008 I was hired as a preschool teacher for Catholic Charities. A year later my position changed to head teacher in the classroom. I enjoy working with children, coming in to work and seeing the children's faces, listening to their stories about their weekend, knowing that every activity and story you choose for them they will enjoy it and last but not least listening to their voices say your name with such excitement when they see your presence. We as teachers work hard to make sure that the children of our future get the guidance and support needed to succeed.

My plan was to build my own family and have my own kids. Believe it or not I have built my own family and have two beautiful kids of my own. As a preschool teacher I never knew that I would be experiencing a power struggle when planning to give birth to my own child. I was faced with a conflict that we do not have the advantage that others have of using maternity leave when it is necessary after giving birth. Why is it that preschool teacher's don't have the opportunity to be part of this resource. I was able to use all of my vacation and sick time accumulated to have the opportunity to stay the appropriate time home to enjoy my first born daughter. I was disappointed with the fact that I then had to start all over again accumulating my vacation and sick time that I then needed in case my baby would get sick or for her dr. appointments as well as my dr. appointments.

Third reason is that I enjoy making a difference in children's lives and wonder why is it so hard to grant us with the pay that we well deserve. Raising a family is not easy and it becomes a struggle. With the pay that we receive taking into consideration that prices for everything are rising when looking for help for our families become eligible due to our low income. When researching job positions in other areas I realized that there are places that are paying more for the same position and less hours. I have come to the conclusion that most of the time once you start with a company you want to stay with that company for as long as you can but the pay we receive makes it hard on us when you see others making more than we are and we are working twice as hard and long hours. I have always had the belief that I am not in this position for the pay. Unfortunately it is a new era and it is becoming harder and harder to make ends meat. Positions that pay low wages put employees in a position of choosing between their job and having enough income to support our own families.

In conclusion the question of what is the role of a preschool teacher is a big debate that has been going on for years, as years go by people have come to the conclusion that the job of a preschool teacher is not an easy task to do. We have many different roles in our position. In order to accomplish all roles and feel like you succeeded you have to be motivated, committed and creative. Together we are one, we come united to make a difference with power and determination the impossible becomes possible.

Sincerely,
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